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The University of Nebraska at Omaha

## Board of Regents denies bid-rigging charges

By JOHN ROOD  
Editor

Lincoln — Regent Kermit Hansen defended the NU Board of Regents on Saturday against what he described as charges of "bid rigging" and "fraud."

Hansen made his remarks while asking Lincoln businessman Ron Lockhard to retract statements he made in a Jan. 9 Omaha World-Herald article.

"Here's the other side of the story of bid-rigging," Lockhard was quoted as saying.

"Here's bid-rigging by the people who are acquiring. It's really sharp. It's so subtle that only a few people can catch this at that level," he added.

Lockhard, president of the Lincoln Independent Business Association, declined to retract the statements, which were made regarding the bidding process for a new IBM computer.

University of Nebraska officials first sought emergency approval of a \$4.95 million advanced IBM computer in early October. Emergency approval, which does not require a competitive bidding process, was necessary because the current NU computer was dangerously close to overloading, they said.

Regents rejected approval of the IBM model 3090-200E computer twice, despite the offer of a \$100,000 discount for quick approval of the system. Many regents, including newly elected chairman Nancy Hoch, later expressed displeasure after learning the computer had been delivered to the NU campus prior to the regents' vote not to approve the purchase.

Following a request by the regents to issue bids for computer equipment, NU administrators issued and then revised bids for the IBM equipment.

The bid specifications improved, Lockhard said at the meeting, but were still not completely fair to bidders other than IBM.

"The bids could have been written without the words IBM in them at all," Lockhard said.

Instead of using the IBM trademark, NU should have described the type of system it wanted, including how fast it was to operate, the amount of storage space required and what type of maintenance was available, he said.

"I really don't believe you would allow your motor pool to ask for bids on automo-

biles by brand name and all those kinds of things. An analogy to that really does hold well," he said.

Hansen said the university did not engage in bid-rigging.

"You have in effect said that I am a party to and support fraud, and I deny that and I ask for a retraction of that implication as far as this board or me as an individual is concerned," he said.

"Secondly, I think you have implied that we either have, or have directed, that individuals on our staff shall incorporate either marketing techniques of one company or be exclusive in our approach. I deny that as well, after exploring this with our computer people."

Lockhard credited the regents for opening up the bidding process, which later resulted in the purchase of a used \$1.3 million IBM model 3084QX computer from Comdisco Inc. Although the computer was not as sophisticated as the earlier model sought, the purchase is expected to solve the university's computer crunch for the next two years.

Lockhard did not recant statements that said the bids were intended to limit other bidders.

"It is very obvious that it is the intention to do that," he said.

"Contrary to what you're saying Regent Hansen, I think it's the regents who have taken the lead here and stopped this from happening," he said.

Lockhard said he asked to speak to the board because he was concerned that IBM had looked bad during the bidding process.

"IBM has not been accused of anything, and IBM has come off as somewhat of the bad guy here," he said.

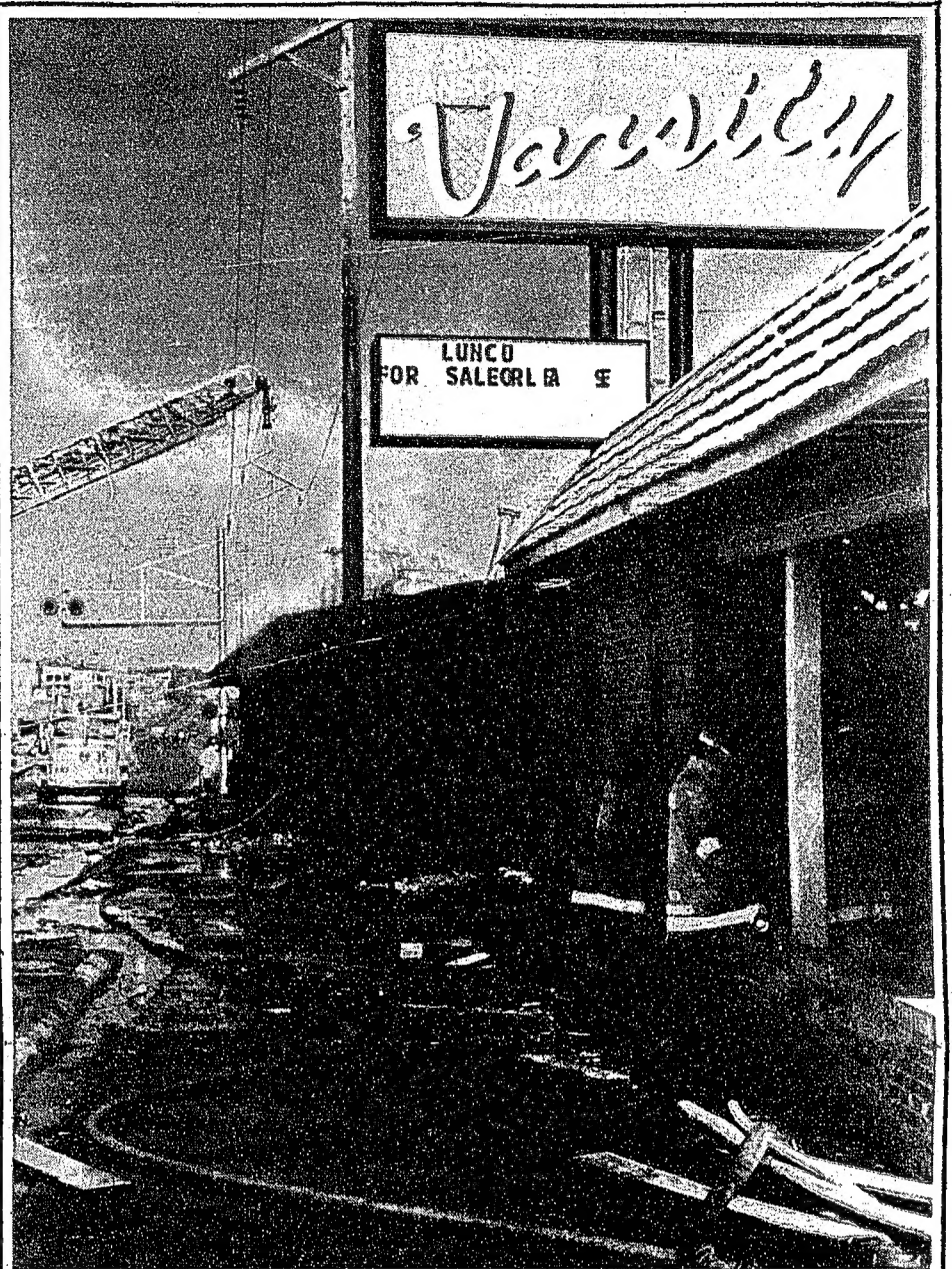
"To the contrary, IBM has done an excellent job of marketing in the true sense of the word 'marketing.' They have helped to create a need and they have helped to fill it," he said.

Lockhard said his group of about 700 Lincoln businesses will continue to monitor NU purchasing procedures.

"In order to be as open and fair as possible, our organization believes that (bid-rigging) should not be done," he said.

Many regents, including Margaret Robinson, said they were glad the process was over.

"I just want everyone to have the chance to bid," she said.



— Dave Weaver

### Goodbye

Omahans watched as a familiar UNO hangout was destroyed by fire. The building that formerly housed Bob Hanson's Varsity caught fire Friday morning at 10:07.

According to fire department reports, the blaze, currently under investigation, turned into a three-alarm fire 25 minutes after the first fire unit arrived. There were no injuries. The building has been vacant for more than a year, and was previously owned by UNO men's basketball coach, Bob Hanson.

## Orr's two-year budget omits building funds

By JANETTE THOMAS RIDDER  
Senior Reporter

Three state senators say Gov. Kay Orr's Jan. 10 budget proposal to the Legislature continues her emphasis on higher education.

However, the proposed budget still falls approximately \$36 million short of the University of Nebraska's request.

Orr's two-year budget request to the Legislature seeks a 21.3 percent increase in state funding for the NU system. If approved by the Legislature, NU would receive an additional \$41.4 million over the two-year period as part of the \$2.2 billion state budget request.

It may only be speculation at this time, but many say Gov. Orr's proposal will not remain intact.

"Obviously, it will be tuned," Plattsmouth state Sen. Roger Wehrbein said.

Wehrbein said he appreciates Gov. Orr's attempts to improve higher education.

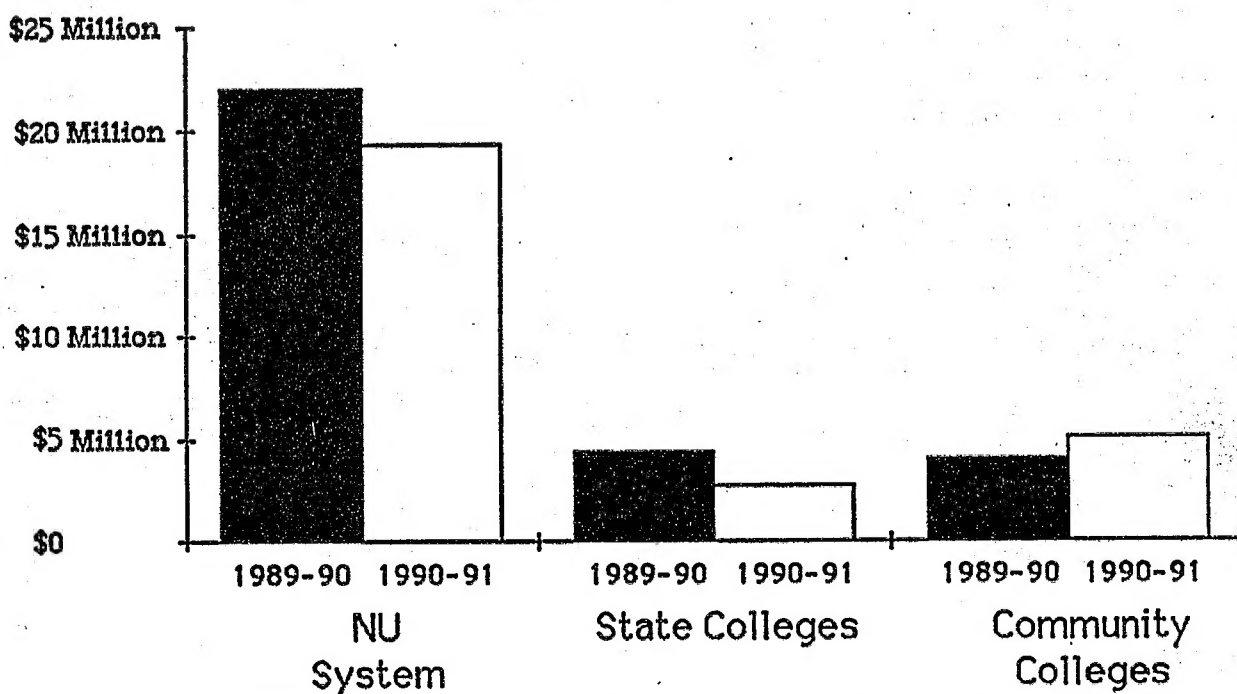
"The NU system has been very well funded, on the high side. Closer examination will be held for possible cuts," Wehrbein said.

State Sen. Brad Ashford of Omaha had a different opinion regarding Gov. Orr's proposed budget for higher education.

"The budget says 'no' to a College of Fine Arts (building) for UNO and that is totally unacceptable to me," Ashford said.

See Budget on page 9

## Orr's Proposed Higher Education Increases





# Comment

## Orr's building omission questions

Actions speak louder than words.

Will the real Kay Orr please stand up?

Some University of Nebraska at Omaha supporters must find it difficult to figure which governor they voted for. Was it the able politician who sought increased funding for higher education last year? Or, Orr the governor who, to a large extent, omitted UNO from research initiative funding?

Fall UNO graduates should have been suspicious after learning the governor agreed to speak at their commencement exercises. After all, many had been around for at least four years, plenty of time to watch Orr's Jekyll and Hyde routine.

Watch from afar that is.

### Editorial

Orr is seldom seen in Omaha, except to attend the vice presidential debate, campaign for Dave Karnes, or announce a new LB 775 big business expansion.

The clincher in her performance came at close range for these graduates.

On Christmas Eve's eve, Orr appeared as the keynote speaker at fall commencement ceremonies. Her speech be-

gan like past commencement speeches: UNO was a wonderful institution for the state, funding for higher education would continue to be a priority during the next legislative session ...

But then, a curious thing happened. Orr's graduation speech turned to campaign speech. Those in attendance learned the governor had single-handedly saved the class of 1988 from a most dismal future.

Before she was put on the job, state morale was at an all-time low, state coffers were almost empty, and NU graduates were dropping out of the state never to be seen again. Now, everything is peachy.

It's a wonder the state survived without her.

Needless to say, many graduates were not impressed with Orr's comments about George Bush's "kinder, gentler nation" or any of the other blatantly biased campaign material.

Some, even those who described themselves as staunch Republicans, were downright angry that politics intruded upon the ceremonies.

Fortunately, the university was nice enough to schedule graduation right next to Christmas, so many forgot Orr's end-of-the-year campaign speech.

With the omission of the much-needed Fine Arts Education Building from the governor's recently announced two-year budget proposal, it's time to re-examine Orr's record.

Money talks.

Orr's votes should walk.

Actions speak louder than words.

## Gone but not forgotten ... Writer says send money

**Note: Who needs those expensive syndicated columnists? Former News Editor Tim Kaldahl rejoins The Gateway staff this semester while completing an internship in New York City.**

I made it to New York City. Well, not quite yet. If all goes well, tomorrow I step on a plane and sometime later that same day I'll be at LaGuardia looking for a cab to take me to my new campus in Brooklyn. I'm a Maverick going back East for a little schooling. I've been spending my last days humming poignant, moody, travelling songs.

"One hundred bottles of beer on the wall, one hundred bottles of beer ..."

The full title is something nice like "From Urban to Global Community: UNITED NATIONS SEMESTER '89." It's a course of study the National Collegiate Honors Council put together. My thoughts have been more like:

"My God, I'm going to New York, home of the Knicks, Woody Allen, David Letterman and \$7 an hour parking garages." But yeah, I like the idea of studying the UN, too.

UNO's campus is just over 88 acres and has never really seemed that big to me. My new campus is 22 acres. Land is a more precious commodity out there. I'm bound to look up at the buildings initially and look like a tourist.

Going away to school requires you to use different parts of your brain. Example: How do you fit a prized home entertainment system that includes a TV, stereo, CD player and 300 albums, tapes, and compact discs into a carry-on bag? Answer: Take a boom box and whimper. A less frivolous question really makes my lower lip tremble. Which setting do you use when you wash blue jeans and underwear together?

Tim Kaldahl  
Gateway Columnist

I haven't moved away from home yet and the idea of doing laundry (or worse, not doing laundry) has become a pressing issue. Another little bit of uncertainty is MY ROOM-MATE. God knows what it will be like. It could be a jock, a bookworm, or a greek (yeechh). It also could be a really cool guy who may not be thrilled to be rooming with some clown from Nebraska.

When I meet it, the conversation is bound to sound like the following.

ME: "You're my roommate. Hi, I'm Tim from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. I'm majoring in journalism. I've grown up all my life in a suburb of my state's only major city, a metropolitan area with a population of nearly half a million souls who work in a variety of businesses, from insurance to telemarketing."

IT: "How many head of cattle do you raise on your farm?"

It's gonna be wonderful living in a cube with another human being's annoying habits. It's gonna be just fine. It should, really.

Going away is a great excuse for ugly parties. My best friend has flown off for a semester in London and before he left, a buddy of ours had over 60 or 70 of our close personal friends and a belly dancer to wish us bon voyage.

"You guys are really gonna have a (expletive)ing good time. You better (expletive)ing have a great (expletive)ing trip. You guys are such lucky (expletives). Send me some (expletive) from New York and a Hard Rock Cafe sweat-shirt." What are friends for?

Besides the party, I got a bottle of vodka, cards, beer, a UNO sweatshirt and a toy Uzi to smuggle past the x-ray machine at the airport. Toy automatic sub-machine guns can be fun.

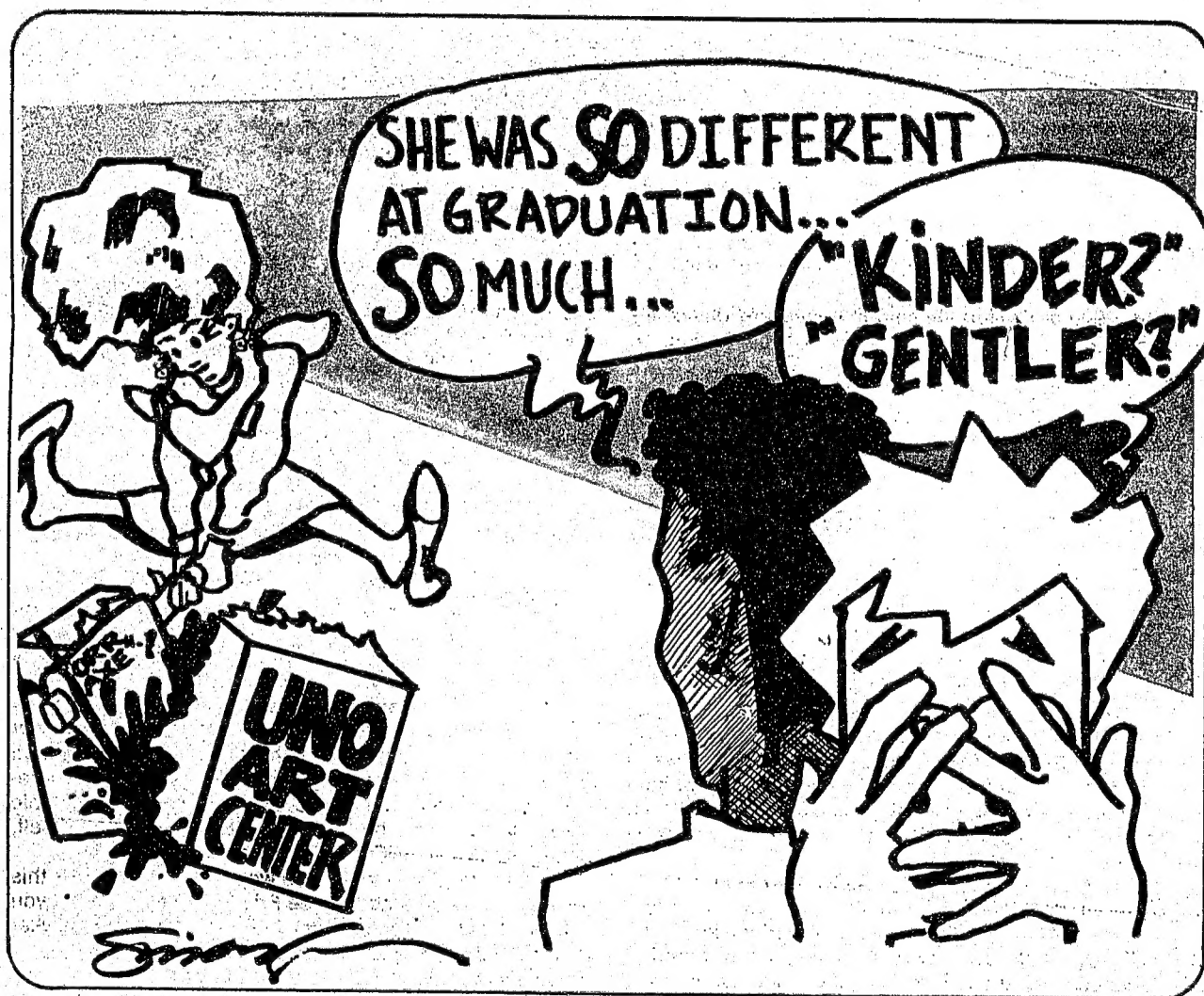
"Excuse me son, what are you doing with a gun on the back seat of your car?" the cop asked after he pulled me over at 2 a.m. last week. I'm not kidding.

"It's a gift, a toy, a going away present," I sputtered. I left the Uzi on the back seat after the party back in December and forgot about it. The cop was not about to forget the cheap plastic noise maker. My car and my description matched with some felon who just committed a robbery near my girlfriend's house.

"Could you step out of the car, please. Have you been drinking?" he said. It went on like that for about five minutes. No, I wasn't drinking. No, I don't steal for a living. Definitely, the gun is a toy. Yes, I'll get the hell out of here and go right to bed.

Apparently an evil twin is out there in a copy of my car ripping off stuff. My life as a Knightrider episode. It's a good thing I'm leaving.

The next column is coming from Long Island University in the middle of Brooklyn, New York. The idea of leaving behind everything and everyone familiar is scary. But, it's also going to be the adventure of a lifetime. I'll be sure to write. Send money.



### THE GATEWAY

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# Access

## Professor says King's work touched the American spirit

By JOHN CHESIRE  
Part-time Instructor

A social visionary concerns himself with finding pathways to "social re-creation." Generally, they are activist scholars; studying throughout their lives and shaping their studies into concrete activity.

They are usually strong but tender persons; often divided from the thought of the rest of society.

In the extreme state, some social visionaries become counter-culture theoreticians, ranging from Karl Marx to Mahatma Gandhi.

In America, three men come to mind: Abraham Lincoln, Eugene V. Debs (the union organizer) and Martin Luther King, Jr.; none of them in the extreme state. Each was a "reconciler," even though their activities often high-lighted a divided American society.

American exacts a heavy price for a visionary's rise to prominence and influence: King had to very clearly and carefully articulate who he was and why his cause deserved the attention of the American public. Otherwise, one (justifiably in my mind) has little or no lasting effect on American public opinion.

If King had not expressed his views with genuine finesse, he would have eventually found himself without colleagues and without consistent television and newspaper coverage.

This astuteness was equal to Lincoln's; both superb political minds with tender sentiments, as evidenced by the precision and passion of their public actions.

As with Lincoln, King believed in the basic integrity of the American system. If he had not, like Gandhi, he would

have challenged America as a colonial power oppressing people who should be free entirely of the dominant body politic.

Does not the celebration of King's birthday mean we are all indebted to him in some way? Have we adults cleared our heads enough to learn what our debt is and then teach it to our children?

When in America's schools, on his birthday, King is portrayed as being a "great" man, what is the actual message we are sharing with our children?

Lincoln was a peaceful man, somewhat Quaker-like. Even though he was an active "reconciler," he had to take in hand the reins of military power.

King was an active pacifist whose religious beliefs were also blurred considerably by the frenzy and length of the civil rights struggle, which in reality was a war, even though the violence was coming generally from one direction.

A minister's purpose after ordination is spreading the Word of God. King, like Lincoln, once the struggle began, had this major aspect of his life fall away from him; he became, instead, an ordained American personage.

Both King and Lincoln knew how to address the multitudes about hard realities without being heavy-handed; and, in fact, uniting factions that would not normally have united, under any conditions; Lincoln near the end-points of the Civil War and King nearly throughout his fifteen year public life.

King, standing in the midst of many black leadership groups, accomplished this with the skill of an experienced mediator.

We are teaching in some of our schools that King spoke for all of us. This is an extremely fragile truth: he spoke

against many of us (albeit with compassion).

For example, do we tell our children that King stirred with great vigor the pot of America's peacefulness and unity, or that he was a one-man source of moral education on the subject of equality?

King took on the establishment. The only American ever to do this with such magnitude and success.

King knew well, too, the legal boundaries that governed civil disobedience. Our children should know that he was imprisoned over 200 times in his public life.

A perusal of King's writings, particularly his "letters and notes from the Birmingham jail," clearly showed his intense study of American political thought. Interestingly, there was always the slightest sprinkling of Christian Marxism in his papers.

Henry David Thoreau was "different." But, would our children not be surprised to know that King was as "different" as the eccentric Thoreau?

Could we explain to our children and young people that if King were alive today, he may very well have shifted his base of operation to South Africa? And Why?

To be fair, King's life is a union now for many of us, but we need to remind ourselves that King entered our lives through the "back door" of discord and death. We did not shake his hand at the front door. In our schools, this appears to be another well-hidden-adult thought.

Lincoln did not have to enter through the "back door," but he earned his place on center stage as King did. Thus they died on center stage because they preferred not to move.

King's life and death did touch the American spirit. So America lives on, educated and tattered, but surviving.

## Mailbag

### Reader questions views

**Note:** This letter was originally sent to the editor of the *Daily Nebraskan*, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln student newspaper.

#### To the Editor:

I am writing in reply to your editorial "Regents Rob Pockets" (Dec. 12, 1988 *Daily Nebraskan* issue), in which you questioned the good judgment of the Board of Regents in approving a \$13.3 million Fine Arts Education Building at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Education, after all, is supposed to be the purpose of all campuses of the University of Nebraska. But here at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, we do not have the classroom space to educate students in the fine arts. The new Fine Arts Education Building is very necessary for us.

The 1980 Need Statement, in justifying the need for this project, stated, "There are severe limitations which currently exist in the fine arts programs at UNO due to the current deplorable facility problems which exist."

All of the fine arts disciplines are widely scattered throughout the campus. There is not only external, visible separation of the arts on campus, but also internal physical fragmentation within departments."

This need has not changed during the intervening eight years. Perhaps you were unaware of the inadequacy of the spaces currently occupied by the fine arts department on the UNO campus. It requires a tour of most of our campus to find all the corners this department has been stuffed into.

Let's start on the east edge of campus in Arts and Sciences Hall. On the third floor, we find the art department classrooms. Of course, we must limit enrollment in Drawing, Design and Painting classes, since we have to use standard classrooms rather than art studios.

Art education classes are also restricted because only one third the standard minimum space is available. Down one floor we find the faculty offices for dramatic arts and the Writers' Workshop — all in one corner.

Down one more floor we find UNO's theater. It is really a converted gymnasium — without adequate backstage or wing areas, without space to fly sets or store props — but we have to use the space anyway. We don't have anything else.

Now let's take a brisk five-minute walk over to the basement of the Engineering Building where we find UNO's television and radio stations. The TV station is crammed into 1,100 square feet of space which was outgrown years ago.

The second studio had to be converted to storage space long ago, so they make do with one studio for both classroom and production space, one obsolete control room, and an engineering shop lacking central heat, air conditioning, or ventilation. (It has been deemed economically infeasible to provide these amenities in this area).

The radio station is equally limited in space and facilities. And both television and radio personnel regularly have to run back to the east edge of campus to Kayser Hall whenever they need anything from the radio or photography labs.

Just a few minutes farther east from the Engineering Building, we find the rest of the fine arts. The UNO "Art Gallery," the Fine Arts Press and the dean's and administrative offices are located in Annex 22 — a former residence on the west side of the campus.

The dean and his administrative staff are physically separated from every academic unit in UNO's College of Fine Arts. The "Art Gallery" was converted from living, dining-room spaces. The work area for fine printing is in a virtually-inaccessible area of the basement of this building. It is impossible for handicapped students even to enter the instructional area.

Construction of a Fine Arts facility on the UNO campus was first recommended in 1970, and had been endorsed as a need by every University of Nebraska Board of Regents planning document since that time. The UNO construction plans provide for classrooms, an art gallery, a 400-seat studio theater, and unfinished space to later accommodate the television and radio stations.

Tell me how this necessary education building could possibly compete with UNL's Lied Center and its 2,500-seat theater, plus the Howell Theater, plus the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, plus the Carpenter Television Network Building?

In conclusion, the College of Education would love to remodel the space currently occupied by the radio and photography labs. The College of Business Administration needs to reclaim and remodel the floor now occupied by the English Department.

The College of Engineering needs to remodel and expand into the space occupied by the television and radio stations. But until we have a new Fine Arts Education Building, UNO does not have any space available to remodel. Our "cheapest, most sensible" and most necessary route is to begin construction immediately.

Sincerely,  
Carolyn Sue Mouttet  
UNO Senior

### Youth For Peace speaks

#### To the Editor:

This may not seem like a timely letter, but there is a need for someone to set the records straight about that enigmatic organization Youth For Peace.

Youth For Peace at UNO is a concerned group of students that meets once a week to discuss national and local current events and ways of educating the public of the importance of peace. We are NOT a group of radical hippies that sits around planning to overthrow the government with some neo-"commie"-anarchist movement, as some people like to believe.

Despite YFP's obviously good intentions, it is treated as some outcast organization that presents some kind of danger to life itself. There is some person or group of people who refuses to let YFP exercise its right to publicize its meetings and intentions. Sometime around the Dec. 3 weekend, our display case in the Student Center was broken into and all the information ripped out. An ROTC flyer was left in its place. We don't blame ROTC specifically for the vandalism, however, we have failed to hear any response from them one way or another.

This isn't the only hostility we receive. No matter when or where, our flyers, which we hang up to publicize weekly meetings, are torn down a day or two after we hang them up. They are all approved by Student Activities and there is plenty of room for everyone's flyers on the bulletin boards, but I guess someone out there feels peace just isn't what the world needs right now.

And then there are the stares, comments and insults we receive. This is, in a way, worse than the other stuff. I personally joined YFP because I think there is a need for people to realize that there is a chance of another war coming around. And that there are already small wars that we are involved in (just ask the relatives of soldiers killed in Central America or the Middle East). I want people my age to realize there are alternatives to running off and joining the armed forces.

Obviously, we are going to appear anti-military. But, we're not. We are anti-war. My dad is a major in the Air Force and works on the Stealth bomber. He understands my position and encourages my activities as treasurer of YFP. Why can't everyone else understand?

I guess what I personally want, most of all, is a reply from this person (or people) who keeps ripping down our material. I want to know why. If the person has guts enough to break into our case and rip down all our stuff, then surely the person can write to The Gateway with a reasonable response as to why he feels that YFP, or peace in itself, is not wanted at UNO or in the world.

Until then, for anyone who would like to join YFP this semester, our meetings will be Friday at 2 p.m. I'd tell you to keep an eye out for our flyers, but you'll have to be quicker than the anti-YFP vandal.

Sincerely,  
Paul Shuman  
Treasurer, Youth For Peace

### Kearney says 'thanks'

#### To the Editor:

Thank you for your fine article with respect to the inclusion of Kearney State College within the University of Nebraska system.

There is one clarification I would like to make on behalf of Kearney. You quoted Sen. Jerome Warner of Waverly as saying that prior to 1978, no state colleges had graduate programs. Warner was speaking about the M.B.A. program at Kearney, which has been in effect since 1978.

Kearney has actually been offering graduate degrees in education since 1953. In fact, the graduation program is a significant and integral portion of the comprehensive curriculum at Kearney.

Of the 14,018 different students who took classes for credit at Kearney last year, almost 6,000 were graduate students. Those numbers indicate the importance of graduate education at Kearney.

Again, thank you for informing the students and faculty at UNO about this issue.

Cordially,  
Thomas J. O'Neill, Jr.  
Vice President, College Relations  
Kearney State College



## Senate plans goals

By MARY DIRCKS  
Staff Reporter

The Student Senate set five goals to achieve during its current term in a closed meeting on Jan. 12. "We wanted to make specific goals to gauge what we accomplish," senate Speaker Mary Reynolds said. The senate's term runs through October. "Overall, it was a very productive meeting," she said. About 27 people attended, in addition to the 32 senators. "Because there are some new people, a lot of new and different ideas came out," she said. The goals are as follows:

- Student Government plans to sponsor the placement of seven benches in the Pep Bowl area. "We will solicit funds from other student organizations on campus," Reynolds said. The benches will bear some permanent form of recognition for contributors.
- Student Government also plans to sponsor a reception to recognize student organizations. Reynolds said its purpose is to increase awareness of the various organizations and their activities. "Hopefully, one result will be a sharing of ideas on things like recruiting members and putting on events," she said. "I'd like to see more of a closer knit university," she said. "And I think we can do that by bringing organizations together."
- Another goal is to increase awareness of the Council for Community and Legislative Relations (CCLR), a council under the student president/regent's office. One objective is to appoint a new director by Feb. 16, Reynolds said. The council's previous director, Paula Effle, is now student president/regent. Reynolds said other objectives include improving communication on campus, publishing the Student Government newsletter and bringing legislative leaders on campus.
- Student Government also plans to invite a representative from the Faculty Senate and from the Staff Advisory Council to speak at one senate meeting each semester. "It is Student Government's job to improve the relationship between these two organizations," Reynolds said. Rita Henry, chairperson for the Staff Advisory Council, was very receptive to the idea, Reynolds said. "We want to start some kind of liaison between these two governing bodies," Henry said.
- The Student Senate's final goal is to lay the ground work for developing teacher/course evaluation forms to be filled out by students. Reynolds said the forms will cover topics such as types of tests and lecturing styles. "We would be pushing our limits to get it implemented by October," she said. "Hopefully we will pass on this goal to the next senate."

Could increase voter turnout ...

## Student regents gain voting power

By JOHN ROOD  
Editor

Lincoln — The Board of Regents passed a motion Saturday sought by three regents who could not vote for it.

Former student president/regents Joe Kerrigan of UNO, Matt Hotovy of the Medical Center and current UNL Student President/Regent Jeff Petersen jointly sought a vote for student regents at the December 1988 board meeting.

The vote will not be counted in deciding regent matters, but will instead be recorded in the regents' minutes to reflect the students' opinions.

Kerrigan and Hotovy, whose terms expired in December, were not in attendance as Regent Don Blank of McCook introduced the measure, which was adopted by a 5-3 vote. New Student President/Regent Paula Effle voiced her approval for the measure.

"I am a little bit nervous about it. It'll take a little bit of getting used to, but I think it will be a fantastic experience and will really increase the accountability on my campus (UNO) particularly," she said.

Effle received laughs from other regents after referring to the former UNO and Medical Center regents, and to Petersen, whose term expires at the end of this semester.

"It's pretty easy to support this resolution when you're not going to be affected by it," she said.

Regent Margaret Robinson of Norfolk voted against the student vote.

"Student regents should express themselves. But they have always had the opportunity to express themselves in student government, which is where the expression should be made," she said.

Robinson said the time for more student regent accountability is during student government meetings, or during less formal gatherings of the board.

"They could have taken an agenda anytime in the last 20 years to their meetings and expressed to the people whom they represent how they feel and how they would have reacted to any of these issues," Robinson said.

Regent Kermit Hansen, who later voted for the measure, said he was tempted to offer an amendment requiring a 20 percent voter turnout to support the student regents in order to continue recording the vote.

Voter participation at all three NU campuses has traditionally been less than half of that. Instead, Hansen said he will carefully review the measure in January, when the one-year resolution would need to be renewed.

Effle said the regents could see an increase in voters because the students will be more accountable to their constituency than in the past.

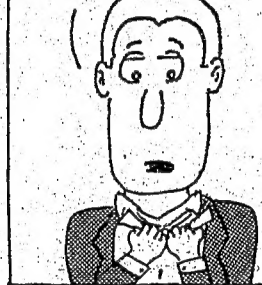
"I think this will actually increase voter turnout," Effle said.

Petersen said the lack of a vote has hurt voter turnout on the UNL campus.

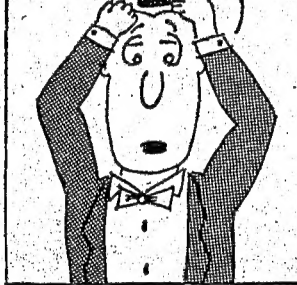
"Unfortunately, I think that part of the problem is because of the perception that the office doesn't carry any type of authority or any type of voice," he said.

### Big Max on Campus

BOY, WHAT A LOUSY WINTER VACATION. FIRST, I DIDN'T GRADUATE BECAUSE OF ONE LOUSY P.E. CREDIT. THEN, THE BEST X-MAS GIFT I GOT WAS UNDERWEAR...



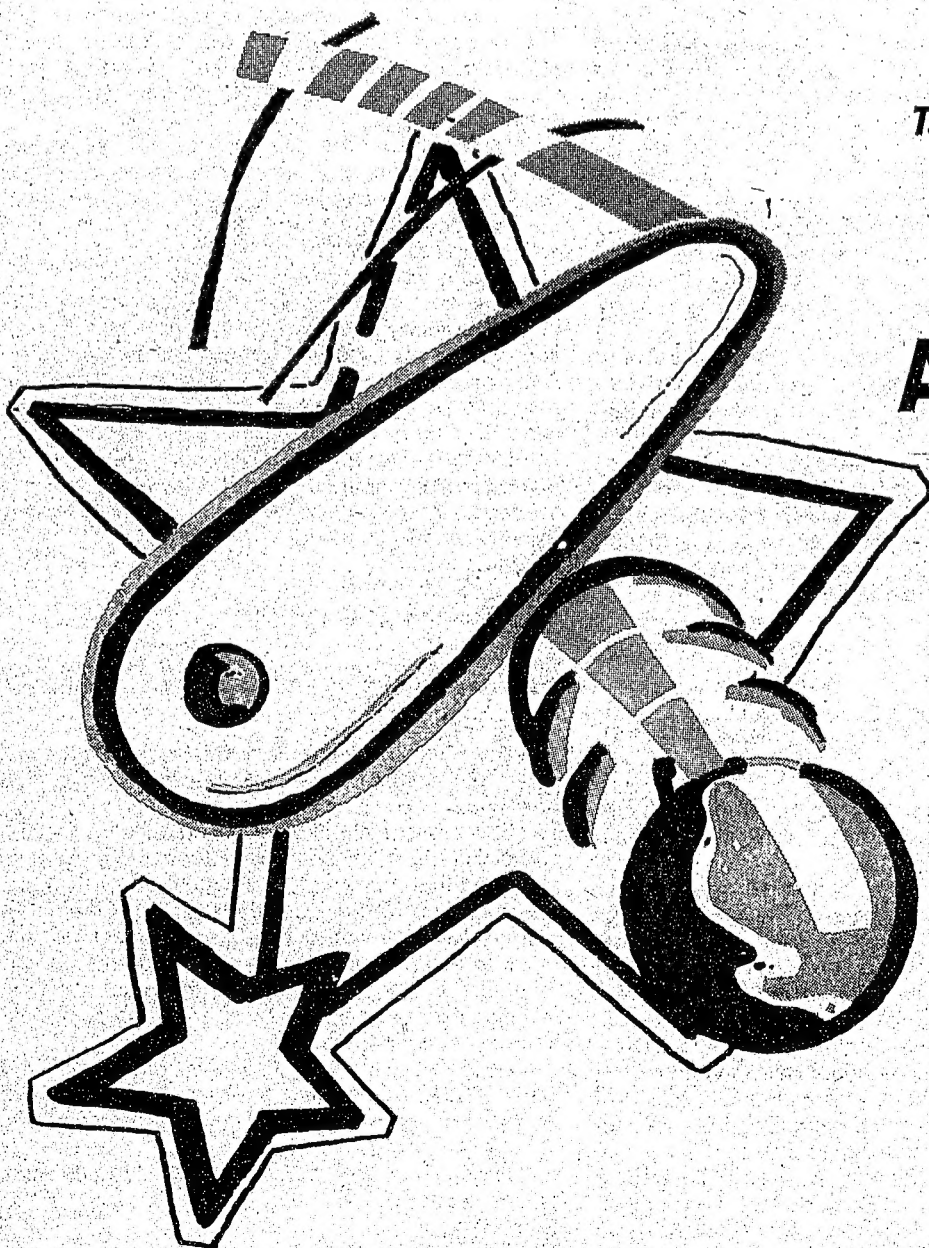
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# News Briefs

## Career fair

The Urban League of Nebraska, Inc., Career Centers, Inc., and the University of Nebraska Continuing Studies department will co-sponsor the "Career Fair of the Midlands" on Jan. 26 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Peony Park Ballroom. For more information contact the Urban League at 453-9730.

## UNO squad takes third

The UNO cheerleading squad took third place at the National Cheerleaders Association's national competition,

held Jan. 7 in Dallas, Texas. The competition was the first national appearance for the UNO squad. First place went to Alabama's Faulkner State College, and second place went to last year's champion, Oklahoma State.

## Professorship in management

A professorship in management for UNO's College of Business Administration has been established by Omahans Harlan and Nancy Noddle. The professorship was created through a donation to the University of Nebraska Founda-

tion. The foundation will match the income earnings from this donation to provide an annual stipend to enhance the honored professor's regular salary or to support various elements of his research.

## Graduate Studies hours

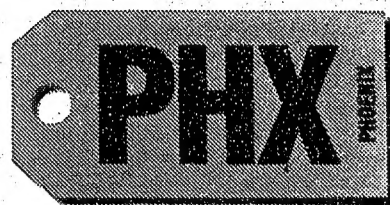
The Graduate Studies office, Eppley Administration Building 204, will remain open for business till 6 p.m., Monday evenings during the Spring semester.



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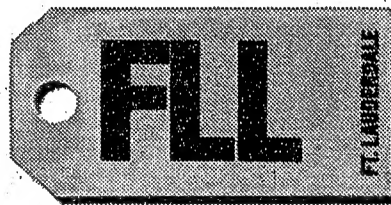
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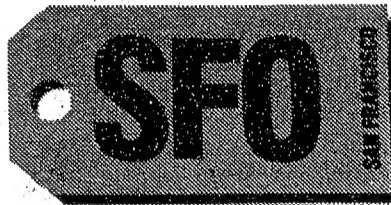
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# Arts & Entertainment

UNO drama department takin' it to the limit

## Plenty of choices for those who want to act

By CRAIG PUGH  
Feature Editor

Let the plays begin! That seems to be the attitude everywhere in town as 1989 gets under way. And UNO is at the head of the pack.

What this means is that anybody who has ever been bitten by the acting bug can now try and get rid of that fever by getting on stage and working it off.

There are plenty of choices. Science fiction lovers can audition for two Ray Bradbury plays Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m. in Arts and Sciences Hall, 214. The two plays are billed as "A Night of Delicate Terrors."

Auditions will also be held at the same time for "Wings," the story of a stroke victim's journey of self discovery, as well as "A Company-Created Production," an as-yet-undetermined play that will emerge as the actors talk about what they want to create.

"We're hoping for a lot of actors from everywhere," said UNO graduate student Mark Bourne, who will direct the two Bradbury plays. Bourne and Bradbury have, in fact, exchanged letters concerning the project, and Bradbury is purportedly excited about the two UNO plays.

"His first love was theater, and remains so," Bourne said. "Bradbury even has his own theater group in Los Angeles, where he lives. So even though he's a prolific book writer, he's really in tune with the stage."

What everyone will be auditioning for under the two Bourne-directed plays is "Pillar of Fire" and "Kaleidoscope."

Bourne wants people to bring their imaginations with them when they come to the auditions. "We're not going



to be standing around just reading scripts. I plan to have some improvisations and a lot of movement going on," he said.

Bourne explained that this means actors might, for ex-

ample, be given a situation — a lover's quarrel, getting fired or being drunk — and told to "go with it."

"I want this to be fun for everyone," Bourne said. "I definitely want to avoid the feeling of competition; I hope people can come in and have fun. Please ... leave your nervousness at the door."

Bourne said that in "Pillar of Fire," the setting is a future world in which a mad rebel from the 20th Century returns from the dead to prove that people really should be afraid of the dark.

In "Kaleidoscope," seven space travellers cast adrift by an explosion discover that the universe provides surprising ways to die.

"Wings" director Tammi Ziola, who is also a UNO graduate student, is equally excited about her play. Basically, the main character is an older woman who's had a stroke. But don't be put off by that set-up, Ziola cautions.

"Wings" is not a clinical psycho-drama," she said. "I think every one will be able to relate to it. The author wrote the script from the inside of the heroine's mind, so that's where the audience will be. This calls for some interesting sounds and images, because when a person has a stroke, the way they process information becomes different from the way we know it."

What's more, Ziola said the main character of the play was a wing-walker and stunt pilot in her youth, a gutsy type who now has to deal with the frustrating limitations of her stroke. Many aerial images will be projected on the stage during the play to reflect the woman's thoughts.

While the protagonist certainly claims much of the limelight during the play, Ziola said all actors — she wants at least eight more — will be able to get something from

See Plenty on page 8



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# 'Rain Man' deserves numerous viewings

Writing about certain films can be a genuine pleasure — and Barry Levinson's "Rain Man" definitely resides within that category. In telling the story of Charlie Babbitt (Tom Cruise) and his autistic savant brother Raymond (Dustin Hoffman), the film generates immeasurable, and sincere, pathos.

"Rain Man" opens with images of a city-scape, followed closely by those of a shiny, fire-engine red sports car being delivered. It turns out, to the car dealership where Charlie Babbitt wheels and deals in a never-ending series of high-powered financial juggling that never seems to help. His business seems to always run just short of fiscal disaster.

## Elizabeth Tape Cinema

Then we discover that Babbitt's long-awaited weekend with girlfriend Susanna (Valeria Golina) is shattered by a telephone call informing him of his father's death in Cincinnati.

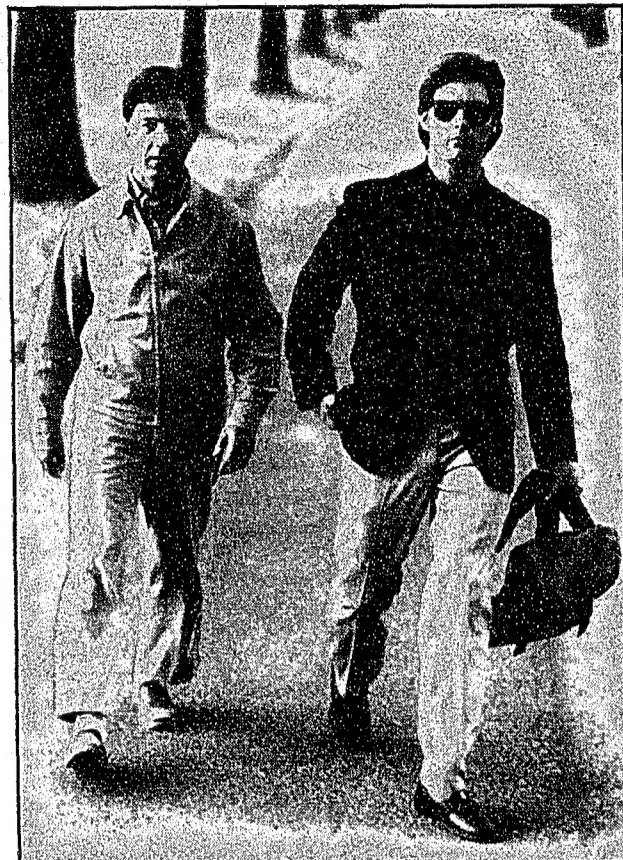
Although he has not spoken to his father for some fifteen years, Charlie nonetheless heads east with Susanna, and attends the funeral standing distinctly apart from the other mourners. Angered to find that he has not inherited his father's approximately three million dollars, he learns that it has been bequeathed to a physician who runs a mental hospital.

In one of the film's many superlative scenes, Charlie learns of the existence of his older, autistic brother, Raymond, and makes off with him — hoping to hold him as ransom for some of his father's inheritance. But in the six days that it takes them to drive back to Los Angeles, things change dramatically.

What sets "Rain Man" apart from other films involves a multitude of factors: first and foremost, however, is Dustin Hoffman's indescribably superb performance as Raymond. Enhanced by the research that must have gone into making this film — the closing credits reveal that a host of experts on autism were consulted — Hoffman's performance remains remarkable from his first appearance to his last.

From the awkward posturing to the occasional odd utterances, to the moments of striking emotion, he transports us to the immediacy of his experiences: he becomes Raymond Babbitt with an uncommon intensity. And because of the intensity and the honesty of his performance, the many emotionally charged scenes work brilliantly, eliciting from the audience genuine reactions, rather than the false sentimentality rampant in such films as "Memories of Me."

"Rain Man" addresses, among other concerns, the issues of family and of human interaction. It communicates clearly Charlie's motivations at the film's inception: money.



Dustin Hoffman and Tom Cruise portray brothers in Barry Levinson's "Rain Man."

And although he has maintained for one year a relationship with the understanding Susanna, it makes clear also that he maintains a significant emotional distance from her.

The film's ability to communicate Charlie's gradual transformation to a far more feeling and caring human being, his new-found need for family and a sense of connectedness, represent another of its more satisfying aspects. At no point does "Rain Man" plummet into mawkishness, nor does it pontificate. Rather, it presents an impassioned tale and allows its characters to speak for themselves.

Another aspect of "Rain Man" worthy of mention is its conclusion. Many possibilities for this film's resolution may have been considered, yet the filmmakers selected an outcome that remains completely in keeping with the more credible reality of Charlie and Raymond's situation.

Although Raymond has indisputably benefited from this unplanned journey with Charlie — and the positive impact on Charlie becomes irrefutable — the film does not suggest that the relationship in any way represents a resolution for Raymond's devastating illness. The film does suggest, however, that this bond between them, on whatever level it exists, will continue to aid each of them immensely.

Even from its opening moments, "Rain Man" succeeds. The scene in which Raymond and Charlie meet for the first time provides an excellent example.

Having entered Raymond's mental hospital, Charlie leaves Susanna outside, as he seems to customarily. As she waits in the antique car Charlie inherited from his father's estate, Raymond, out and about on the hospital's grounds, sees the car. He remembers it as one his father allowed him to drive as a young boy, and stands by it making seemingly random, bizarre comments. Charlie emerges

See Rain on page 8

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# Rain from page 7

from the building, attempting to comprehend all that is unfolding around him as he meets his brother for what he thinks is the first time.

In the hotel room where the three stay, Raymond overhears various noises reflecting Charlie's and Susanna's nocturnal activities. Completely oblivious to the nature of such sounds, he enters their room and proceeds to watch television as the couple completes their interaction, the scene eloquently communicating the sequestration of Raymond's world from that around him.

Charlie's unsuccessful efforts to convince Raymond to fly provide another excellently rendered scene, as does that in an isolated farmhouse where Charlie turns in desperation to allow Raymond to watch "The People's Court," one of the many rituals in his life which if missed creates almost unbearable disorder for him.

## Plenty from page 6

the production.

"Certainly I'd like to see good dynamics between the cast and crew, so that what ends up on stage is the result of a collaborative and creative process," she said. "In other words, I want the actors to have some input."

Finally, there is "A Company-Created Production," which is basically a play without an identity. Professor Douglas Paterson, who chairs the UNO dramatic arts department, will direct the venture.

"The objective is to create a company, build a group of people whose final production will mirror their feelings — their fears, hopes and concerns. Then it's a matter of 'how do we say what we are feeling?' It could be love; it could be hate. We might end up with a play on apartheid, or one about Yuppies. We just won't know until the group decides," he said.

Paterson said the idea of a production that reflects the feelings of a group is in line with the dramatic arts department's desire to explore new ways to do things on stage.

But two scenes within "Rain Man" left indelible impressions: the emotionally haunting scene in which Charlie tangibly connects with Raymond for the first time, realizing his involvement with his own early childhood.

**Charlie's unsuccessful efforts to convince Raymond to fly provide another excellently rendered scene, as does that in an isolated farmhouse ...**

In another scene, towards the film's conclusion, Charlie and Raymond wait together for an expert's decision about Raymond. The two brothers communicate in a simple, understated moment that soars with its emotional power.

Several of the film's images also become memorable, such as the shot of the two men leaving Raymond's hospital: Charlie with his cocky swagger and Raymond with his uncertain, somewhat distorted, gait.

Much later, as the two proceed down an escalator towards the gaming tables of a Las Vegas casino, the camera reveals their descent from their feet upwards, allowing the audience to slowly discover their sophisticated new attire. And later that evening, as Charlie teaches Raymond to dance, the camera films them from outside the window of their hotel room — a remarkable bonding surrounded by the vastness of glitzy Las Vegas.

Director Barry Levinson deserves profuse kudos for this extraordinary work. He has conceived and brought to fruition a stunning effort, including his own role as a physician, which he handles as effectively as he does his directorial duties. Levinson has demonstrated extraordinary filmmaking skills repeatedly, in such films as "Diner" — an understated, unsettling look at the lives of several young men in Baltimore 30 years ago.

**Levinson extracts a unique performance from his lead or leads. And in "Rain Man," he triumphs again.**

His highly underrated "The Natural" provided a visually and aurally stunning film-going experience, and more recently "Tin Men" investigated the darker side of the American dream as seen through the eyes of aluminum siding salesmen in 1960s Baltimore. The superb "Good Morning Vietnam" showcased Robin Williams' considerable talents and reflected Levinson's highly aesthetic cinematic eye. In each of these films, Levinson extracts a unique performance from his lead or leads. And in "Rain Man," he triumphs again.

This remarkable film deserves to be seen and seen again. Even the slick and slimy Tom Cruise, shines here as he goes through a radical change in his outlook. Aided by an excellently rendered script and Dustin Hoffman's outstanding performance — surely to be acknowledged with an Academy Award nomination or more — "Rain Man" provides a memorable, emotionally wrenching experience at the movies.

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## Maverick New Zealand-bound

A UNO senior will soon be studying in the land next to the Land Down Under.

New Zealand-bound is Laura Castelnovo, an international studies major who is going south courtesy of a Rotary Foundation scholarship. She'll be attending Victoria University in Wellington for nine months.

"I'm really excited about going, and I am looking forward to seeing New Zealand,"

she said, adding that she's anxious to get a different perspective of the world.

Castelnovo is a polished debator and carries a near straight-A average. She has served as vice president of the UNO's Honors Program and has also been a board member for the International Studies Students Association. She is a 1987 winner of a UNO Distinguished Scholarship.

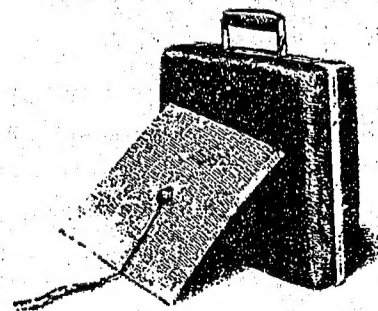
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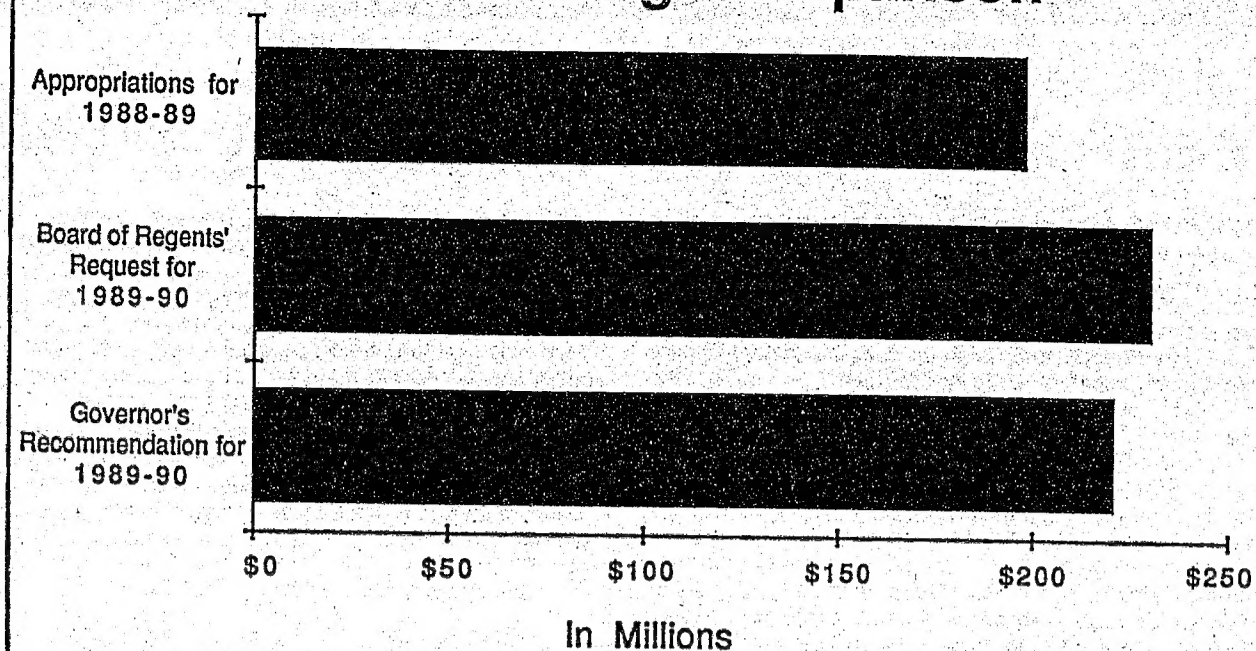
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## NU Funding Comparison



## Budget from page 1

"The college is at the top of my priority list," he said. "I'm going to do the best I can to get that (building) in. It's certainly needed."

Ashford said the building would enhance the UNO campus and attract quality faculty and students.

"I'd like to see the whole project completed at once, proscenium theater included, and I'd like to see it done in the next three years," Ashford said.

The University of Nebraska Board of Regents approved the \$13.3 million building, minus the 1200-seat proscenium theater, on Dec. 10. Funding for the building depends on the Legislature.

Ashford said he is concerned that if the project isn't included in this year's budget, funding will be more difficult to obtain next year.

One problem in obtaining funds is the \$30 million increase in the medical care budget.

"Health care increases took a significant bite out of the budget," Ashford said.

"I went into the senate committed to education, Ashford said. "It's a constant battle dividing money. I need to keep plugging for UNO because it's behind."

State Sen. Gary Hannibal of Omaha said much of Gov. Orr's budget must be approved because it contains many fixed costs, such as state salaries, health care benefits and other operational expenses.

Although Hannibal said education funding will be carefully scrutinized, he wants to see the Legislature approve the Fine Arts building and address the College of Business Administration's growing problems.

"If (higher education) is funded at its current level, it would be generous. However, UNO did not fair as well as UNL, nor did UNMC," he said.

"The College of Fine Arts (building) is a high priority to me and will remain so while I'm in the Legislature," he said. "A \$13 million building is a one-time expenditure, as opposed to \$13 million for a program."

Hannibal said both the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the Medical Center are in a good position in Gov. Orr's proposed budget, but UNO isn't.

"UNO should have a higher than normal consideration," he said. "In my estimation, UNO is not only growing, but has done extremely well in the past with a thin budget."

**"I'd like to see the whole project completed at once, proscenium theater included, and I'd like to see it done in the next three years."**

— Sen. Brad Ashford

## Robinson resolution returns records

By JOHN ROOD  
Editor

Lincoln — For better or for worse, University of Nebraska student records will probably soon be returned to the three respective NU campuses.

Regent Margaret Robinson of Norfolk introduced a measure at Saturday's Board of Regents meeting to return the records in six months, which are currently stored in the NU central administration computing system.

The regents adopted the motion, which was not included on the regents' agenda, by a 5-3 vote, after rejecting an amendment from Regent Kermit Hansen to study the proposal.

Robinson said the move is aimed at improving financial aid processing on the three campuses. Confusion and anger has been expressed by students and parents who are frustrated with the current system, she said.

"It has not worked and that's why I am in support of this," she said.

"I have a number of complaints from students from my district," Robinson said. "Some of them have turned it (the financial aid form) in three times."

Student President/Regent Paula Effie cast her unofficial vote against the measure.

"If that's the best way, then I'm in favor of it, but right now we just don't know. There's a lot of confusion about it," Effie said.

"Even after they (the other regents) read the motion, they still weren't sure what it meant. I don't know if means to move the records within six months or to start moving them in six months."

"That's why I was in favor of Regent Hansen's proposal to study it," she said.

Effie said she had not heard any UNO students complain specifically about the computer system. Robinson's proposal may have been targeted at the UNL financial aid office, Effie said.

"I wasn't going to vote for something I didn't know if we could do. I don't even know if that's a solution to the problem," she said.

Robinson said she had not spoken to any of the campus financial aid or computing offices before submitting the resolution. She added that she was not aware of any feasibility studies in support of the proposal. "I don't know all of the ins and outs."

"The only ones I've spoken to are parents and students. I think their needs need to take some kind of priority," she said.

"One student in my regental district had to leave school

(because the forms were not processed)," she added. "Student records can be done better at the campus level."

UNO Chancellor Del Weber said his campus will need to study the move carefully to see what costs and timeframes are involved. Weber indicated Robinson's resolution might have been the wrong answer to the right problem.

"I don't think that it's a computer or software problem. We just don't have the manpower to process the paper work," he said.

Returning the records would be part of a trend in computing right now, Weber said.

"I guess there are a lot of ways to handle computing. Right now, there's a trend toward decentralization," Weber said.

Hansen, who voted against the resolution, said Chairman Nancy Hoch should not have allowed it on the agenda.

"I think we have established a new procedure for bringing things on to the agenda, and I would just like to make sure that is understood."

"Number one, it wasn't submitted as an emergency agenda item. Two, we generally submit these items in advance so that other regents can be informed. I felt it was contrary to our methods of operating," he said.

Hoch said she allowed Robinson to present the resolution because she thought it related to an item on the agenda related to the purchase of a used IBM computer.

After hearing Hoch's comments, Hansen responded, "Oh, come on."

When asked if the resolution might indicate a new trend by the board to hear items not included on the agenda or of an emergency nature, Hansen said, "I hope not."

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PAUL MITCHELL





# Sports

## Weber finds chemistry is not quite right Athletic Director search is over, but nobody hired

By DAVID JAHR  
Sports Editor

The search for an athletic director, which started in August 1988, is over. But the search will continue later in the spring, Chancellor Del Weber said.

After the 49-applicant field was narrowed to four in late November, Weber was to name a new athletic director in December, after interviews with each finalist.

On Dec. 23, Weber announced UNO will not hire an athletic director at this time.

**"They are all good people and I wish them well. I just determined that the chemistry wasn't right for us."**

—Del Weber

Weber said the decision not to hire any of the finalists was his judgement.

"In the final analysis, I have to feel that I've got the right person," Weber said. "And he or she has got to relate to me, because I'm the one they will be working with a lot."

The four finalists (Michael R. Ryan, Allen F. Ackerman,

Robert D. MacKenzie and Chris Gage) were all qualified, but Weber said none fit the UNO scheme.

"All four carried special qualifications into the interviews; however, we were unable to identify the person who would best suit our needs at this school," Weber said. "They are all good people and I wish them well. I just determined that the chemistry wasn't right for us."

Weber said besides the qualifications needed on paper, the athletic director for UNO must possess strong interpersonal skills with the students, staff and faculty. He also must want to win with student athletes, have the ability to organize fundraisers, have administrative skills, and generally get along with people.

Currently, Weber said the search for a new athletic director is on hold, but will resume later in the semester. Unfortunately, Gary Anderson, the sports information director and interim athletic director, is left holding the bag.

Anderson said the decision not to hire an athletic director puts him into a planning period, when he thought he'd be returning to the sports information post.

This semester, Anderson will be in charge of several fundraising events, working with a \$1.4 million budget.

"I'm glad he's (Weber) taking the time to find the right person," Anderson said. Anderson reaffirms he is not in-

terested in taking over the athletic director position.

Weber said Anderson is doing a fine job in the interim role.

The sports information department struggled last semester because of lack of help, Anderson said. He has hired some part-time help to ease the work load on some employees, especially first-year assistant Mary Coniglia.

### What's Happening ...

Thursday night, the men's and women's basketball teams road trip to Morningside College. The Lady Mavs' game begins at 5:30 p.m. and the Mavs take the court at 7:30 p.m.

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Fac/Staff Volleyball	Wed., 1/25/89	Fri., 1/27/89	Mon., 1/30/89
Men's, Women's & Co-Rec Racquetball (Doubles)	Fri., 2/3/89	None	Mon., 2/6/89
Men's, Women's, & Co-Rec Bowling	Tues., 1/24/89	Thurs., 1/26/89	Mon., 1/30/89
Men's, Women's, & Co-Rec Indoor Soccer	Fri., 1/27/89	Mon., 1/30/89	Wed., 2/8/89
Men's, Women's, & Co-Rec Wallyball	Mon., 1/30/89	Tues., 1/31/89	Mon., 2/6/89

For more information, contact Campus Recreation at 554-2539.



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## UNO splits weekend, record at 10-5

By BOB MARTINEZ  
Staff Reporter

The St. Cloud State Coach Gladys Ziemer said her Huskies played one of their best games of the season Saturday defeating the UNO Lady Mav basketball team 76-56.

"Our level of play has been up and down all season this year, we're just fortunate to be able to play well tonight," Ziemer said.

Beating Mankato State 83-54 Friday night and the loss Saturday puts UNO at 10-5 on the year and 3-2 in conference action.

UNO starting center Kathy Van Diepen had three personal fouls in the first half, leaving Coach Cherri Mankenberg with a smaller team to face a much larger Husky team.

"St. Cloud is a very physical ball team," Mankenberg said. "We tried to use quickness to beat the size disadvantage."

During the first two minutes of the second half the Lady Mavs received four personal fouls that resulted in five points for the Huskies.

Five minutes and five fouls into the second half, Mankenberg received a technical foul for protesting a foul that was not called on a Husky player who knocked UNO's Julie Johnston down.

"All I asked the referee was if he had noticed the number of fouls they were calling," Mankenberg said. "If I knew

that I was going to receive a technical foul I would have said something worth getting the foul for."

UNO's foul trouble continued with Van Diepen fouling out of the game with 8:30 remaining.

"Kathy only played 18 minutes, that really hurt the team," Mankenberg said.

Not only did Mankenberg notice the loss of Van Diepen, but so did Ziemer.

"It helped us when Van Diepen fouled out," Ziemer said. "She's a really tough player."

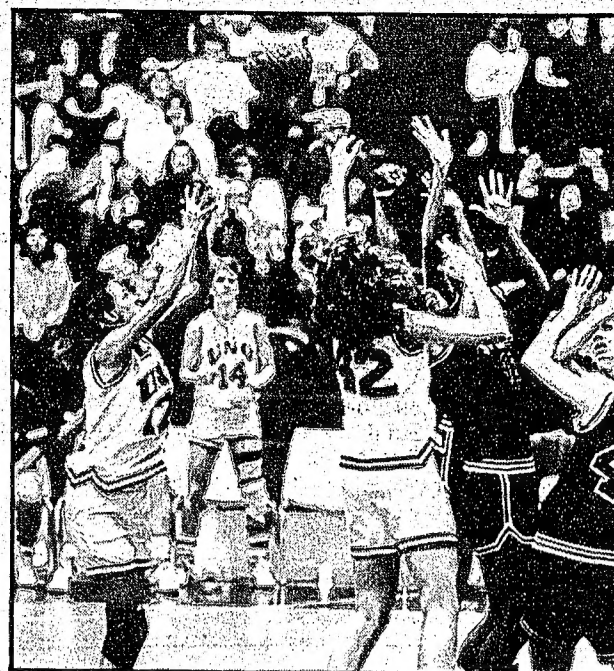
UNO's Tricia Floyd made five of six attempts from three-point range aiding a come back effort. Floyd led the Lady Mavs with 17 points.

"Floyd had good range from the outside," Ziemer said. "Even though we had a nice lead, I knew we couldn't ease up because of the way they (UNO) were shooting the three-pointers."

For most of the game St. Cloud used a zone defense. When UNO started to shoot from the perimeter the Huskies went to a man-to-man defense shutting down the Lady Mavs come back attempt.

"The final score doesn't show how well the UNO team really is," Ziemer said.

After playing five games in eight days, the Lady Mavs will start the new semester at a slower pace. Their next game will be Thursday at Morningside College. The next home game will be against Doane Saturday, Jan. 21.



UNO scoring leader Jill Dau and Darcy Burns, No. 42, look to grab a loose ball during the loss against St. Cloud State Saturday night.

## Survey says athletes spend time on sports, not studies

(CPS) — College football and basketball players are generally poorer than other students, feel isolated on their campuses, find it hard to make classwork their top priority and spend more time on athletics than on academics, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) says.

The NCAA plans to present those and other findings of a survey it did of how athletes spend their time on campus to its members when they meet in San Francisco later this month.

"This is the most extensive research effort done in the field of intercollegiate athletics," said Robert Schultz, the NCAA's executive director.

"We don't believe there were any great surprises in these results," said University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chancellor Martin Masengale.

The results apparently lend themselves to varied interpretations.

University of Georgia assistant athletic director Hoke Wilder, for example, said the results suggested UG officials give athletes adequate opportunities to mix sports and classes.

"We're very happy with the balance," he said.

Schools that burden student-athletes with too much practice time and not enough academic time are "not doing a very good job," said Dan Smith, basketball coach at the State University of New York at Brockport, a Division II school.

The American Institutes for Research, which conducted the study for the NCAA, surveyed more than 4,000 students, including those involved in extracurricular activities,

at 42 Division I colleges and universities.

The study's purpose was to determine the "effect of intercollegiate sports on athletes on a broad level. It was not designed to focus on specific issues," said Terry R. Armstrong, associate project director.

The study found that college athletes involved in extracurricular activities such as band, drama and the student newspaper spend about the same amount of time in class (14 hours), preparing for class (12 hours) and in social activities (10 hours) per week.

But football and basketball players

spend an average of 30 hours a week on their sports even though most do not expect to make the professional ranks.

Although many athletes found tutors readily available, their grades suffered. On a four-point scale, the study found that football and basketball players had an average GPA of 2.46, compared to 2.61 for other college athletes and 2.79 for students involved in extracurricular activities.

Robert J. Rossi, director of the project, said many college athletes feel isolated from other students on campus, and believe living with other students helps ease their isolation.

### Mavs put three on All-Academic list

Three UNO football players were selected to the North Central Conference All-Academic football team for their performances in the 1988 season.

Linebacker and four-year letterman Mike Zeplin was a repeat on the academic team with a 3.31 GPA in secondary education. The senior from Lincoln joins quarterback Todd Sadler and linebacker Todd Culp on the team.

Sadler, a junior from Mapleton, Iowa was selected because of his 3.69 GPA toward a pre-law degree. Culp, a junior and a three-year letterman from Des Moines, Iowa has a 3.56 GPA in his civil engineering major.

North Dakota State had the most student athletes honored in the NCC with five on the 30-man academic team.

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# Mav's flight shot down to the bottom of conference

By MARK GREGORY  
Staff Reporter

The UNO men's basketball team has fallen from the top of the league to the bottom.

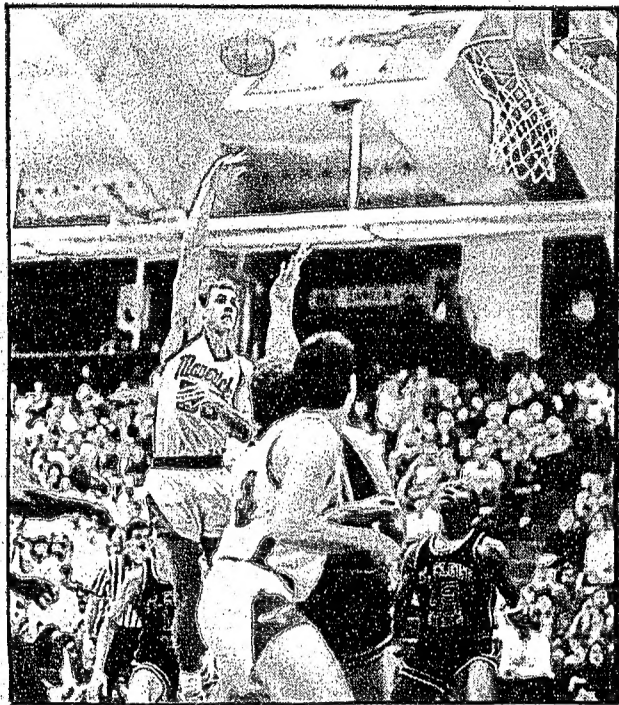
After beating Augustana and claiming the North Central Conference Holiday Championship, the Mavs have dropped five conference games in a row, three on the road, and two at home, the last two on Friday and Saturday nights.

Their 0-5 conference mark dumps them to the cellar of the NCC, battling to stay above .500. Currently they're 8-7.

"We need stronger leadership, we need more poise, we need effort mentally and physically," UNO Coach Bob Hanson said.

"I told the guys they've been playing hard, and that's all I can ask of them," Hanson said. "If we keep playing like that, we'll be all right."

Despite the five game losing streak, UNO has played well against some quality foes.



Center Troy Deane shoots the hook against the St. Cloud defense. UNO faltered late in the game, losing 83-78.

The Mavs disposed of St. Cloud State and Mankato State in the first and second rounds of the Holiday Tourney in Sioux Falls, Iowa. On New Year's Eve, UNO won the title by edging Augustana 73-71.

UNO led 38-30 at the half and held on as Thor Palamore poured in a game-high 18 points. Dan Olson led the Mavs in rebounds with seven.

The Mavericks have been slipping ever since.

Friday night at the field house, Mankato State held off a late Maverick rally to nip UNO 63-60.

With 59 seconds left in the game, Palamore sank a pair of free throws to knot the score at 60, but the NCC's leading scorer, Brian Koepnick, hit a short jumper with 26 seconds remaining to give Mankato a 62-60 lead.

As time winded down, UNO's Tim Adamek attempted a three-pointer for the win, but the ball rolled off and into Mankato State's possession with eight seconds to go.

The Mavericks had one final prayer.

After a Mankato free throw, a second three-point rocket was launched, this time by UNO's Mike Harner. Unfortunately for the Mavs, the result was the same. The ball bounced off the rim and Mankato State snuck out with the victory.

In hindsight, Adamek said that he shouldn't have pumped up the first three-point shot.

"I think I should have passed it off," Adamek said. "I thought I was open, so I took it. Eight seconds is a lot of time, but I should have passed to somebody who could have shot a two-pointer."

The come-back script was similar on Saturday night when UNO took the court against defending conference champion St. Cloud State.

An estimated 1,700 fans saw the Mavs rally back, this time from a 13-point deficit to nearly pull out a victory.

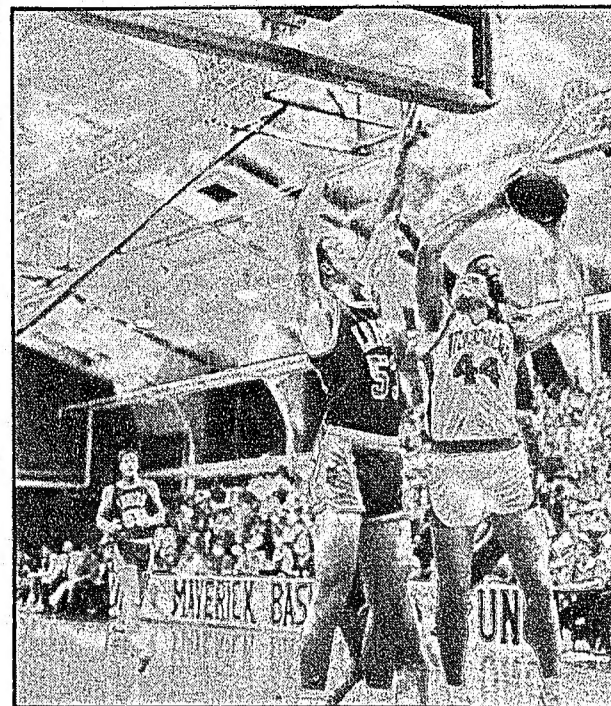
St. Cloud led 40-31 at intermission, aided in part by a three-minute span in which they outscored the Mavs 11-2. The Huskies held the lead the rest of the way to chalk up their second conference win against three defeats, 83-78.

"We dug a hole for ourselves," Hanson said. "The positive thing is that we didn't give up. I don't feel we played hard enough defense at the start of the game, but we clawed and dug. Now we have to do that for 40 minutes," he said.

St. Cloud's Lance Paddock and Binky Pool took game-high scoring honors with 17 points a piece, but it was a balanced Mav attack, including five players in double figures, that almost pulled it out.

Down 81-71 with 46 seconds left, UNO got the ball and Thad Mott hit a three-pointer to cut it to 81-74 with 37 seconds remaining.

Palamore intercepted the ensuing inbound pass and canned a three-pointer of his own to make it 81-77 with 31



Forward Bryan Muellner powers a lay up against Kearney State before the Winter break.

seconds on the clock.

Two Husky free throws made it 83-77, and with 19 seconds to go, a three-point jumper by UNO's Harner missed, forcing the Mavs to foul.

Paddock missed the front end of a one-and-one and Pool then fouled Palamore with five ticks on the clock.

Palamore could only get one toss to fall, and Hanson's troops walked off the court on the short end again.

Bryan Muellner led the Mavs with 16 points, Palamore added 14, Olson had 13, and Harner and Adamek each had 10.

With four other players scoring, the Mavs lived up to Hanson's preseason expectations. Before the season started Hanson said he thought this year's ball club would be very well-balanced. With the losses, he said some line-up changes are in order.

"I plan to do something," Hanson said. "I'll have to look at the film to decide what. I've got five days to decide."

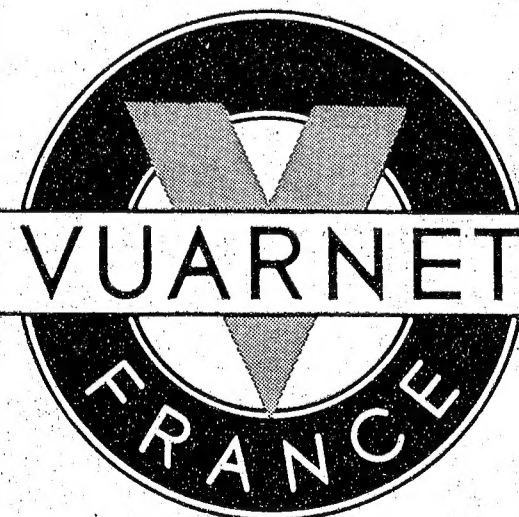
As far as short term goals, the team just needs to continue to play hard, Hanson said.

"We can't think conference title. We have to just come together as a group and do some things that will make us a good basketball team," Hanson said.

The Mavericks will seek their first conference win at Morningside Thursday night, as they make their bid to climb out of the NCC's basement and prove they're the same team that won the Holiday Tourney before the new year.

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